

S E C R E T

OTS/BAB MEMO #287-77
17 November 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing for House Permanent Select Committee
re OTS Involvement in ESP Research [redacted]

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1. [redacted] In response to a request from the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, OTS briefed Committee staff personnel on its involvement in ESP research. The meeting was held in the Committee's offices from approximately 1000 to 1100 hours on 16 November 1977 and was attended by:

David Brandwein

[redacted]

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OLC

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Committee Staff

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Michael O'Neil

Dick Geza

Pat Long

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2. [redacted] The Committee's interest was occasioned by the article "Psychic Spying" which appeared in the Parade Section of the Washington Post on 7 August 1977. The staffers wanted an informal background briefing on Agency research efforts on ESP.

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3. [redacted] A short oral history of OTS efforts in the field, dating back to 1961, was presented. All three staffers asked very pertinent questions and were given frank and in-depth replies.

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4. [redacted] Since the Agency representatives present could speak only for OTS, [redacted] was asked to find out

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if any other Agency component was sponsoring ESP type research.

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5. A written outline of OTS work on ESP -- classified SECRET --, the IEEE article covering the unclassified portions of the work done by SRI and a brief article on Mr. Pat Price were left with the Committee. Additional information was offered but they declined.



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later learn via his instructor that he had "picked up" the diabetes symptoms of his partner in the test. Yet another time, he picked a woman's wristwatch out of a bag of articles without knowing who the owner was and described a pain in the elbow of the watch's owner. She had hurt her elbow playing tennis earlier that day.

Golden feels strongly about the importance of parapsychology. "No one can say to me, 'Lou, you're full of hops. How could you get involved in anything so silly?' I've experienced it, felt it, seen it—whatever it was. There is a great deal to this field. I personally want to learn more, and I want to meet other people who are involved in it."



Patrick Price

The newly appointed president of Princess Coal Company in Huntington, West Virginia, refers to himself as, "One who operates with or without a body." Patrick Price is not playing word games with that statement. It has been scientifically shown that he can "exteriorize" his conscious self to obtain data and information through ESP.

Price's remarkable ability is being put to use by Princess to develop its coal resources in an expanding energy market. His talent will also be used in directing operations of Princess's sister companies which include Sycamore Coal and Kathys Farms, the group's agricultural arm encompassing some 4,500 acres of farmlands and game preserves, as well as a showcase ranch for raising thoroughbred horses. With a vast acreage that extends over several states, Princess Coal is purchasing a helicopter to whisk Price around the group's widespread holdings.

Excited about putting his abilities to use in the coal industry, Price says, "I know that coal has certain properties that if released and properly utilized could handle any energy needs we have for the next three to four hundred years."

A man of unwavering confidence with a cordial disposition and penetrating blue eyes, Price says he will also use his unique ability to ascertain the company's exploration and production reports. "I don't need to physically leave the office to do that," he asserts matter of factly, "because the coal fields are only a couple hundred miles away and distance is no problem mentally."

Nevertheless, he will go into the field periodically to consult with

worked or explored. Setting the tone for his presidency, Price recently accompanied chairman of the board David L. Francis and a group of company engineers on an inspection tour of the properties and "saw" beneath the surface seven seams of coal in a mountain. His analysis was corroborated by the engineers.

Over the past year, Price has been tested by physicists at Stanford Research Institute (SRI) in Menlo Park, California, with positive results. In one experiment he was able to mentally change the electronically measured output of a revolving clock pendulum at which a laser was beamed. On command and for forty-five minutes, he altered the output of the system below its normal "at rest" level, seemingly an impossible feat. In another experiment, he exteriorized and correctly described in detail a location several miles from the laboratory that not even the experimenters knew would be the target. This experiment was reported in *Nature*, the prestigious English scientific journal.

Yet another experiment with an SRI physicist has convinced Price that he can change the genetic structure of plant life. Thus, one of his goals is to develop hybrid seeds. He now is setting up a program at Kathys Farms to modify the genetic structure of food plants in order to build up their resistance to insects, droughts, severe soil and weather conditions, and to reduce their growth cycles. Asked about the success of such a program, Price answers, "The numerous experiments I have willingly undergone under very stringent laboratory conditions over the past year at SRI show that I can produce an effect at will that is measurable and that gives positive results." Price was fifty when, as he states, "I had an analytical awareness as to the availability of abilities I already had." He credits Scientology for "opening new vistas and abilities of self to me and which I now use as a matter of fact."

The unique businessman has operated across the business spectrum from his family's construction and building business to a packaging company he once owned. He has also held various posts in government ranging from commissioner of police and fire for the City of Burbank, California, to city councilman and board chairman.

From his own personal experiences, and those with others in business and government, Price now believes that everyone can do what he does and that such abilities are not extra-normal or uniquely displaying them," he agrees,

Photo courtesy of Stanford Research Institute



"but the only difference is that I have knowingly assumed responsibility for what I do and make the constant decision that it is perfectly okay to do it."

Price feels that most people refuse to confront this aspect of themselves which is why they are unaware of it or don't make proper use of it. Yet it does function for successful businessmen whether they admit it or not, he adds. "Those who really make a thing a success trust their basic instinctive data and themselves. They're not just following books, procedures, computers, or advisors because they innately understand that most of the combined data was gathered erroneously and, therefore, would lead them to false conclusions."

He predicts that others like himself will follow him in business and that companies will start utilizing such skills and abilities in their operations.

"By virtue of the fact that I have come forward," states Price, "it can help unlock doors for those in business . . . they can either challenge what I say and do or they can accept it and apply it to self."

Asked about how he sees his own performance with Princess Coal and its allied companies in the months ahead, Price replied, "I have no reservations about the positive results. Besides, I am putting myself on the line and am willing to be measured by the company's performance under my guidance. As any businessman knows, the final proof of how valuable I may be will tell on the bottom line."

~~SECRET~~OTS Involvement in ESP ResearchSG1
ASG1A Up to
1961 Monitoring only

10/61

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SG1A 4/72

 ORD/OTS are contacted by Targ and Puthoff of SRI. Demonstrations by Ingo Swann appear to show ESP has useful/practical intel application (Swann apparently caused a magnetometer to fluctuate).

SG1A 8/72

 Contract with SRI (OTS/ORD) for [redacted] -- a demonstration of using ESP to describe hidden objects. The results are so good [redacted] is provided to work up a more complete research plan.

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SG1A 10/72

 OTS funds [redacted] contract with SRI to explore the talents of two subjects. Both results and abilities are inconsistent. One Subject can cause a change of temperature while another can reproduce information in a sealed envelope. But neither can duplicate the work of the other.

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SG1A 2/73

 ORD renews its interest in the project and it becomes a joint OTS/ORD effort.

SG1A 3/73

 A third "sensitive" (Pat Price) is discovered with an apparent ability for "remote viewing." The potential use of this technique for intelligence gathering spurs all concerned to move ahead quickly.

SG1A 4/73

 A new contract to continue and expand the work at SRI is forwarded from OTS/ORD to the DDO (Mr. Colby) for review and is referred to the Executive Management Committee because of its sensitivity.

5/73

 The contract is finally sent to the DCI (Schlesinger) who decides to allow the existing contract to be completed without a follow-on. OTS is told this work is too sensitive and potentially embarrassing. At this time OTS is in the midst of an investigation~~SECRET~~

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regarding its role in the Watergate affair.

SG1A 8/73

An "informal" experiment at SRI with an OSI scientist on remote viewing uncovers classified information and renews Agency interest in ESP. Two "remote viewers" provide a good description of a military site by accident. They are then asked to describe the interior of the building and produce physical layout, code words and a list of personnel. The names of the people prove to be incorrect but the description of the interior and the code names are accurate enough to convince the new DCI (Colby) to renew work on ESP.

SG1A 2/74

A new joint OTS/ORD project is funded to develop and utilize ESP. ORD is to concentrate on identifying and measuring the phenomena while OTS is to evaluate the operational usefulness of the people and techniques without trying to "understand" them.

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Friction soon develops between ORD, OTS and the contractor because of conflicting interests. ORD wants very strict experimental procedures. OTS wants more practical applications and the contractor wants less security constraints. The Agency wants more research while the contractor wants more time and money. ORD and OTS come up with different interpretations of the same data.

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New directors are named to OTS and ORD. Neither director feels "comfortable" with the project.

SG1A 8/74

The first real use of ESP for intelligence collection is a remote viewing attempt

The results are described as valid messages being transmitted over noisy channels.

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OTS quickly loses its enthusiasm for ESP research and directs the project officer to come up with practical applications or abandon the project.

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These results are reviewed by other DDO components and new requirements are generated. However, OTS and ORD managements both decide not to continue the project. OTS believes the long range nature of the research take it out of the purview of its charter and ORD believes the work performed by SRI is unworthy of further support.

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In response to specific requests from DDO components OTS does agree to maintain a very limited interest in ESP. Responsibility for the work is turned over to an OTS psychologist. He is told to conduct "operational" experiments but to devote no more than two percent of his time to the work. The best of the SRI Subjects agree to work -- on a part-time basis -- with the psychologist, as do two OTS staff officers who have also demonstrated "remote viewing" ability.

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One of the requests for operational support is a set of geographic co-ordinates which one of the Area Desks has submitted as a target for "remote viewing." The two OTS engineers volunteer to "view" the site and describe an installation under construction which they believe to be The customer is highly impressed with this information

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This same DDO office then provides new co-ordinates which are in turn passed on to the "outside" Subject, (Price). The results of this experiment are presented to the customer in report form -- with a detailed sketch-- for evaluation.

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Before a meeting can be set up, however, Mr. Price dies of a heart attack.

SG1A 9/75



Subsequent attempts to have the area desk evaluate the experiment -- in writing -- finally result in a somewhat confusing, but nevertheless official, report.

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SG1A 10/75



Mr. Price's death effectively ends all official OTS involvement in ESP research.

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